

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention includes a topical anesthetic composition having one or more local anesthetic agents, a penetration enhancer, and an anhydrous, volatile solvent combined to provide a liquid homogenous solution. The present invention may also include water in the topical anesthetic composition as concentration levels low enough to avoid precipitation of the local anesthetic agent and penetration enhancer from solution and undesired enhanced delivery of the local anesthetic agent through the skin or mucosa to the systemic circulation. The topical anesthetic composition can be conveniently sprayed onto intact skin and can be absorbed percutaneously with greater efficacy in order to shorten the time needed for the anesthesia to take effect.